

February 15, 2006

Dear RAC applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Idaho's Resource Advisory Councils (RAC). The RACs serve an important role in the management of public lands in Idaho and your willingness to lend your knowledge and expertise is greatly appreciated.

Application Process

Please contact your local RAC coordinator to begin this process. They will be able to guide you through the process and answer your questions. It is also important for them to know who is interested in the RAC so they know the status of their recruiting efforts. They will transfer your information to the Idaho State Office by the required deadline.

The *Background Information Nomination Form*, or application form, is available through them or on the web at www.blm.gov/rac/id/index.htm.

District RAC Coordinators

Boise District Office

Jean Fend until February 21; MJ Byrne thereafter

Telephone: Jean Fend (208) 384-3441; MJ Byrne (208) 384-3393

Twin Falls District Office

Sky Buffat

Telephone: (208) 308-4189

Idaho Falls District Office

David Howell

Telephone: (208) 524-7559

Coeur d'Alene District Office

Stephanie Snook

Telephone: (208) 769-5004

Required Materials

The application materials for RAC appointments include a completed ***Background Information Nomination Form*** and a ***letter of reference*** from the interest you wish to represent. For example, if you want to represent commercial recreation, you would need a letter from a recognized organization in the state that operates on behalf of commercial recreation. The goal is to ensure that the interest you choose to represent on the RAC is supported by that interest group on the Council.

Where to submit your nomination form: Nomination forms and reference letters may be submitted through your local BLM RAC Coordinator or be sent to Shelley Davis-Brunner, BLM Idaho State Office, 1387 South Vinnell Way, Boise, Idaho 83709.

Materials Deadline

The 2006 nomination period closes **March 27, 2006**. All application packages must be in the Idaho State Office by that date. The State RAC Coordinator is Shelley Davis-Brunner; Telephone (208) 373-4020.

Review and Appointment Timeline

All RAC nominations undergo an extensive review, at various levels, prior to appointments being made by the Secretary of the Interior. This review process takes several months to complete:

March 27- May 15 District Office, Idaho State Office and Governor's Office review

May 26 State RAC nomination package submitted to BLM Washington D.C. Office

May 26 – September The State RAC nomination package is reviewed by a variety of BLM and Departmental offices, congressional staff, and a White House committee. The package ultimately is forwarded to the Office of the Secretary of Interior for final review and appointment. Appointments can be made as early as September 1 and as late as November.

Appointment Terms

RAC members are generally appointed to fill a three-year term. This staggers the composition of the RAC so that five positions expire each year.